

Government of India level. However, the habitation-wise Rural Water Supply coverage status, as per the information received from the State Governments is as follows:

Total Number of rural habitations	Number of Fully covered habitations	Number of Partially covered habitations	Number of Not covered habitations
1422664	1250318	153981	18365

(as per information received from the States/UTs till 16.11.2001.)

However, projects for implementation of Sector Reforms in identified pilot districts, to institutionalise community participation in Rural Water Supply activities, are sanctioned by the Government of India. 63 pilot districts have been identified for implementation of Sector Reform Projects out of which 62 have been sanctioned. Year-wise breakup of the number of sector Reform Projects sanctioned is as under:

S.No.	Year	Number of Sector Reform Projects sanctioned
1.	1998-1999	0
2.	1999-2000	42
3.	2000-2001	15
4.	2001-2002	5
Total:		62

(b) The State Government of Karnataka has proposed to cover 10 Not Covered (NC) and 4990 Partially Covered (PC) rural habitations with drinking water supply facilities during 2001-02.

Funds for rural development scheme to Assam

1178. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not granting funds for rural development during last year and current year to Assam; and

(b) whether the Ministry has taken steps to grant funds for EAS programmes and for other rural development programmes in recent months to Assam?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) and (b) The full Central share of funds for Rural Development Programmes could not be released to the Government of Assam last year and so far in the current year because the State authorities did not release the State matching share, as required under the Guidelines of the Schemes and Programmes. The requisite Utilisation Certificates and Audit Reports were also not furnished by the State authorities in respect of various Schemes.

The State Government have since indicated willingness to release the State share for the current year and it has, accordingly, been agreed, in principle, to release Instalments for the current year for the EAS (and other Rural Development Programmes), subject to a commitment by the Government of Assam that sanction and release of the matching share of the State for the current year will be ensured by the end of the financial year, 2001-2002.

Corruption in implementation of anti-poverty programmes

1179. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a large-scale corruption and payoffs to middle men under various anti-poverty programmes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the measures being taken by Government to ensure clean distribution and implementation of these developmental programmes; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) and (b) No Sir, the question does not arise. The Audit and Utilisation Certificates furnished by the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs), which is a precondition for